

Collaborative Writing and Publishing with LaTeX

(or 'How to lay out your manuscripts, theses and reports like a pro')

www.overleaf.com | @DrHammersley

Workshop Overview

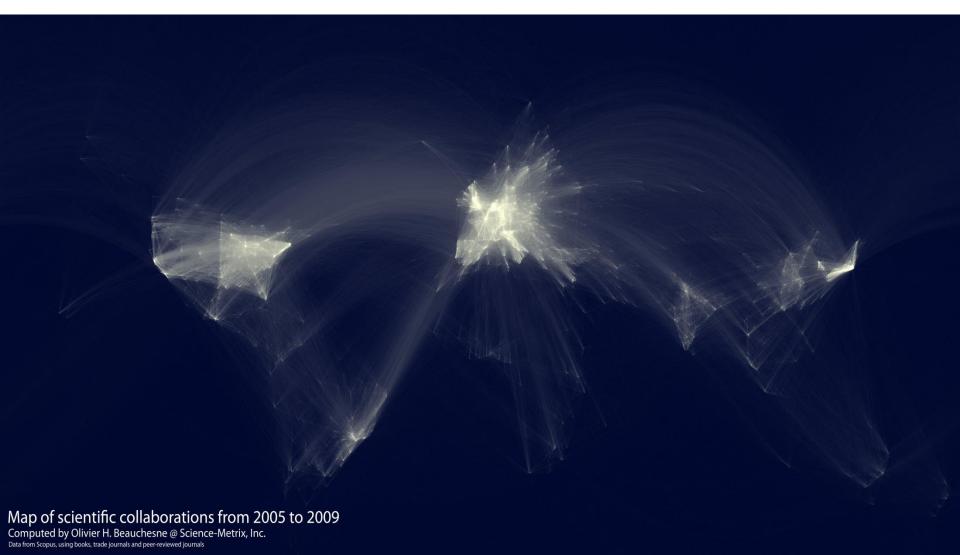
An Introduction to Overleaf and LaTeX

Getting started with LaTeX templates

 Getting more out of LaTeX & Overleaf - features including Mendeley, Git and Plot.ly integrations, and easy table creation and symbol lookup.



The internet is transforming research...



...but writing up is still painful









WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

"FINAL".doc













FINAL_rev.6.COMMENTS.doc

FINAL_rev.8.comments5. CORRECTIONS. doc







FINAL_rev.18.comments7.

FINAL_rev.22.comments49. corrections 9. MORE. 30. doc corrections. 10. #@\$%WHYDID ICOMETOGRADSCHOOL????.doc

Some of the problems...

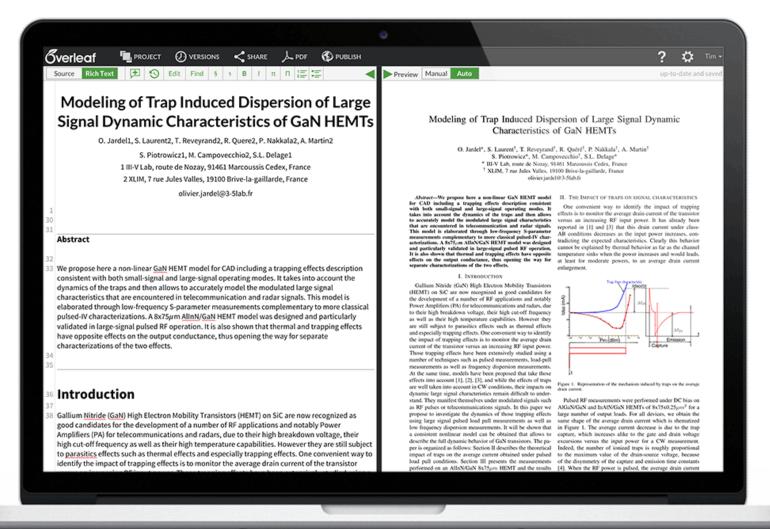
Long email chains passing files around;

Dealing with multiple versions of the same document;

Hours spent formatting & typesetting;



Overleaf – an online collaborative writing platform





Online collaborative editing tools provide...

No need to email files – simply send the link;

One version of the document, accessible by all collaborators;

 Typesetting is done automatically in the background whilst you type (via LaTeX);





https://www.overleaf.com/tutorial

Why LaTeX?

- It makes beautiful documents
 - It's easy to spot a LaTeX document in a pile of Word docs
- It was created by scientists, for scientists
 - A large and active community
- It is powerful | you can extend it
 - Packages for papers, presentations, spreadsheets, . . .



How does it work?

- You write your document in plain text with commands that describe its structure and meaning.
- The latex program processes your text and commands to produce a beautifully formatted document.

The rain in Spain falls \emph{mainly} on the plain.



The rain in Spain falls *mainly* on the plain.

- ► Tell LATEX the \title and \author names in the preamble.
- ► Then use \maketitle in the document to actually create the title.
- Use the abstract environment to make an abstract.

```
\documentclass{article}
\title{The Title}
\author{A. Author}
\date{\today}
\begin{document}
\maketitle
\begin{abstract}
Abstract goes here...
\end{abstract}
\end{document}
```

The Title

A. Author

February 18, 2013

Abstract

Abstract goes here...

But it can start to get complicated....

```
\begin{itemize}
\item Tea
\item Milk
\item Biscuits
\end{itemize}

► Tea

► Milk

► Biscuits
```

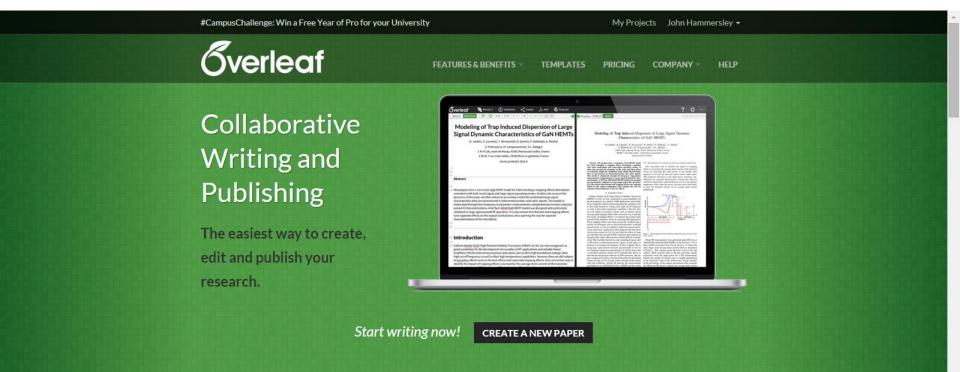
```
\begin{figure}
\includegraphics{chick}
\end{figure}
```

```
\begin{equation} \alpha + \beta + 1 \end{equation}  \alpha + \beta + 1 \qquad (1)
```

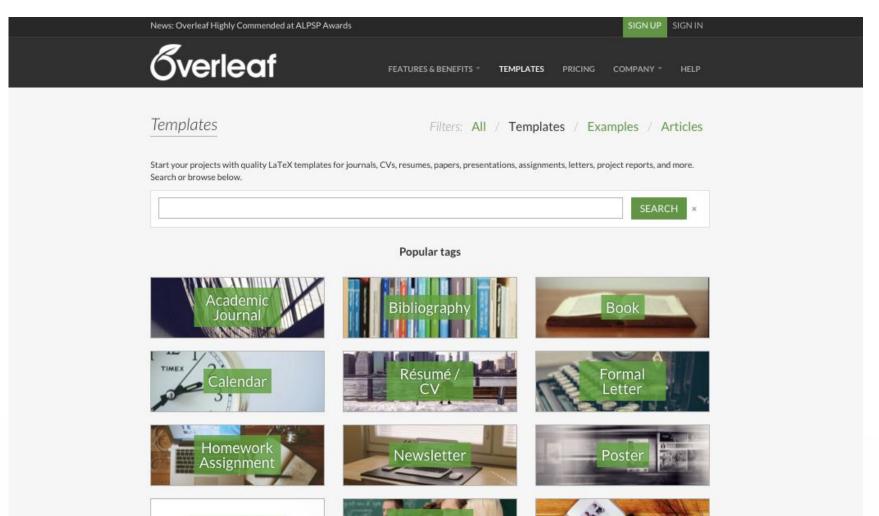
https://www.overleaf.com/latex/learn/free-online-introduction-to-latex-part-1

Making it easier...

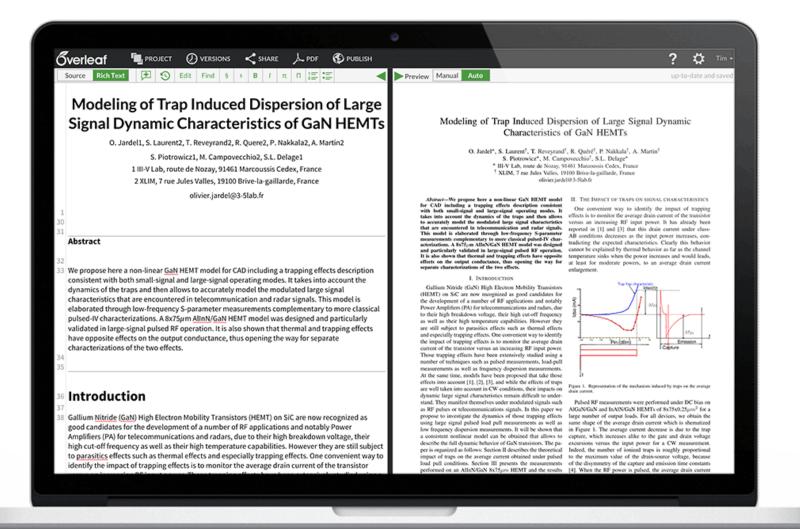
- Cloud-based tools provides LaTeX in your browser
- There's nothing to download or install
- Access your projects from anywhere, any device



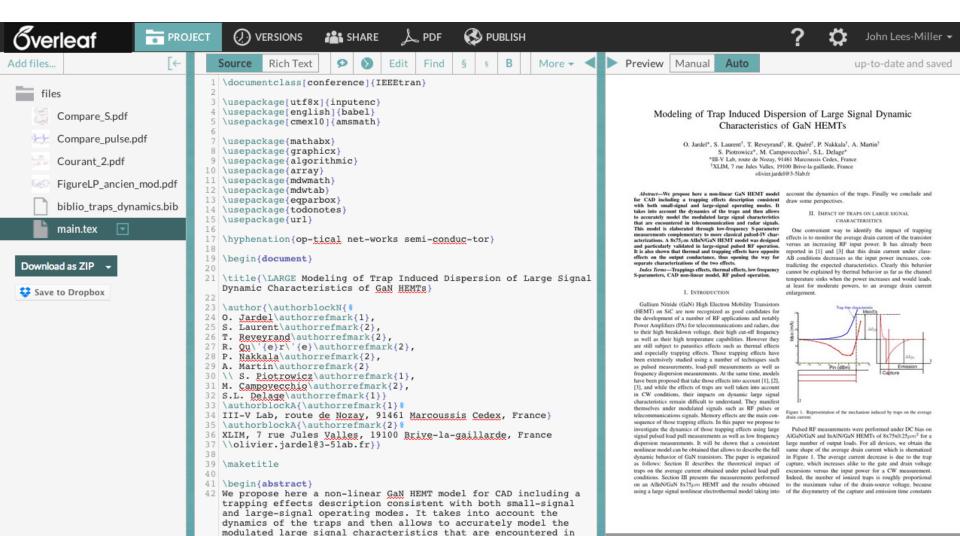
Choose from over 2000 different templates www.overleaf.com/latex/templates



Edit on the left, preview on the right

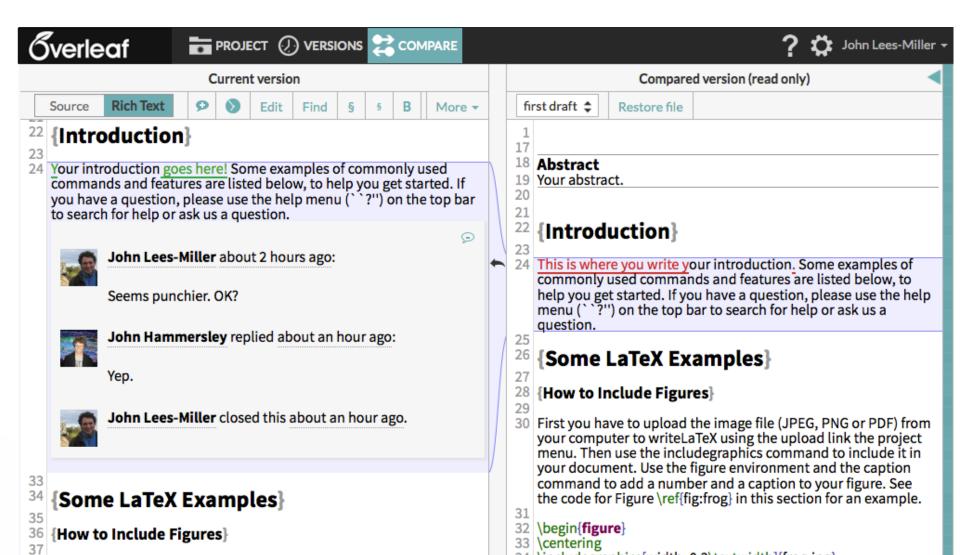


Edit the underlying LaTeX code directly

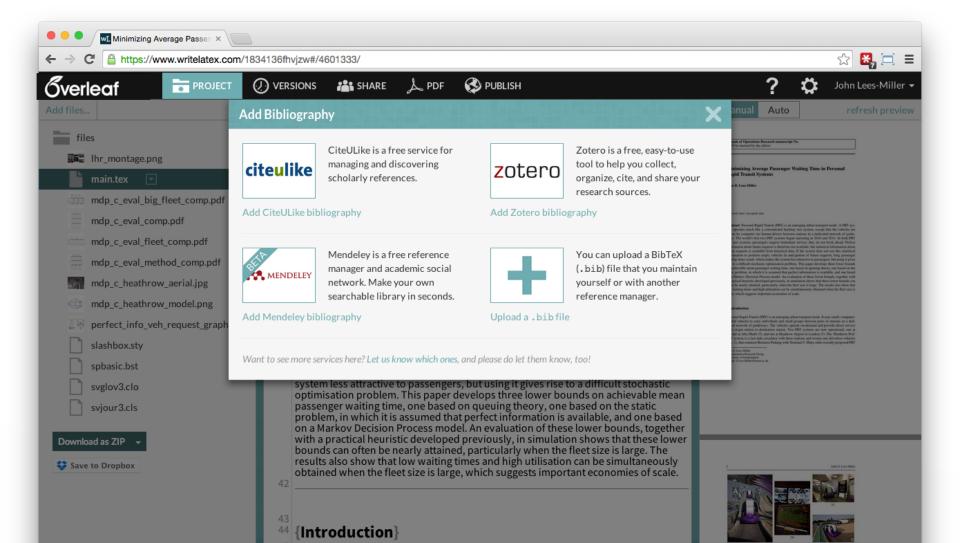


telecommunication and radar signals. This model is elaborated

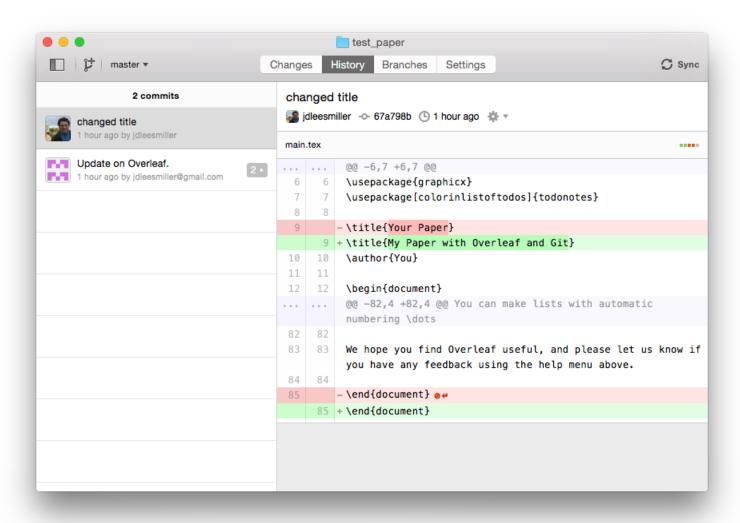
In-line comments & track changes for review



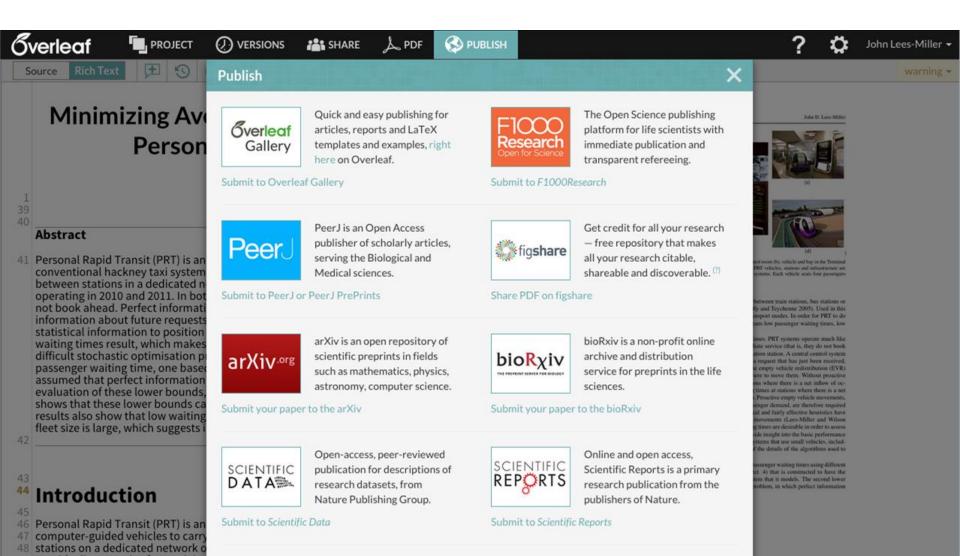
Connect your existing bibliography database



Work offline and sync changes with Git



Publish your work directly to journals & repositories...



Summary

- One version of the document, accessible by all
- No need to email files simply share the link
- Typesetting done automatically in the background while you type
- Automatic reference styles & citation links
- Review tools allow others real-time commenting directly on the document
- No software installation required



If you're new to LaTeX, try Part 1 of our online course: https://www.overleaf.com/latex/learn/free-online-introduction-to-latex-part-1

If you're familiar with LaTeX, try writing up part of a paper or project you're working on using a template from www.overleaf.com/latex/templates



Getting more out of Overleaf



Reference management



Reference management

 Tools such as ReadCube, Zotero and Mendeley make it easy to keep a central database of references.

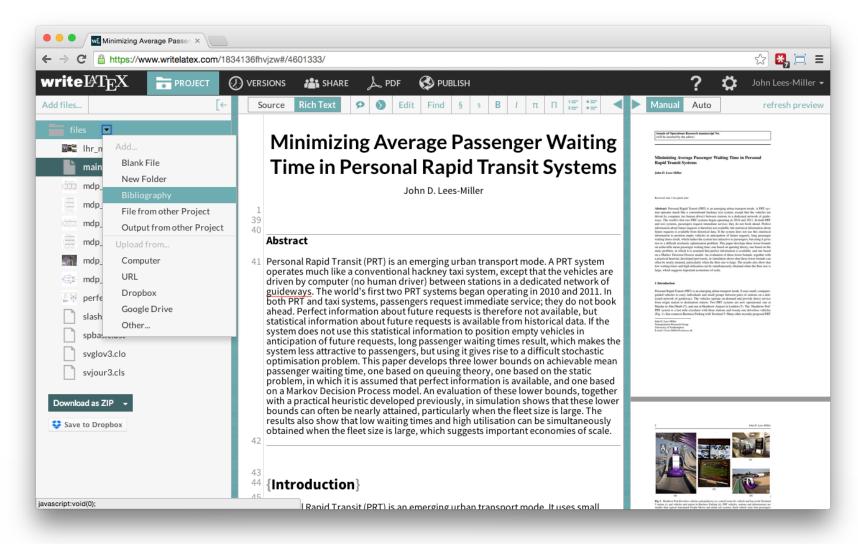




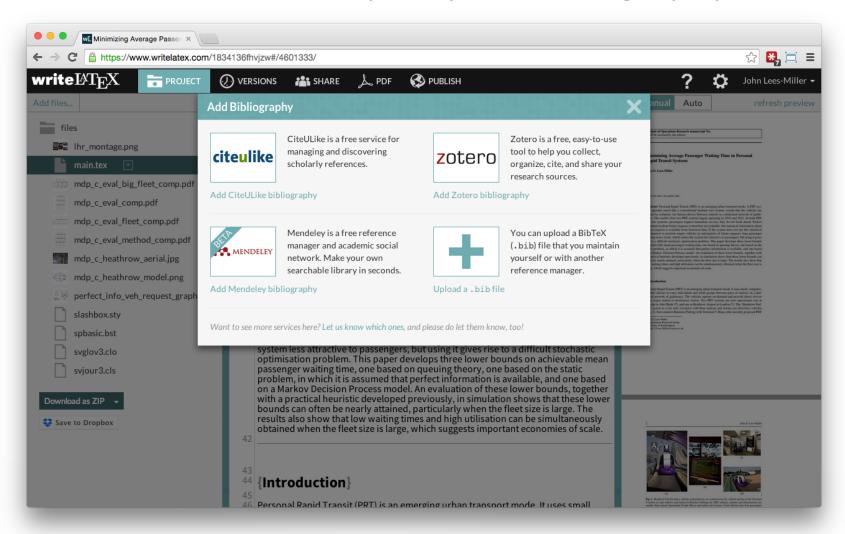




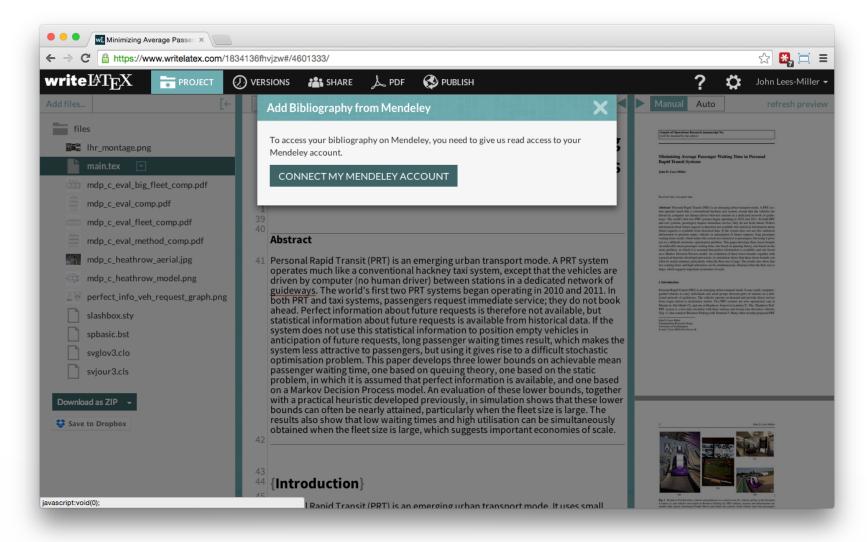
1. Click the 'Add Bibliography' option in the Project menu



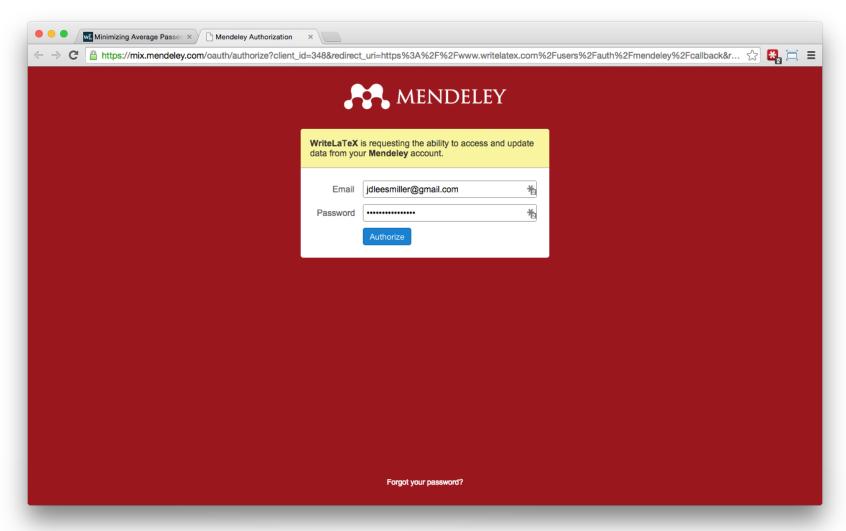
2. Choose where to import your bibliography from



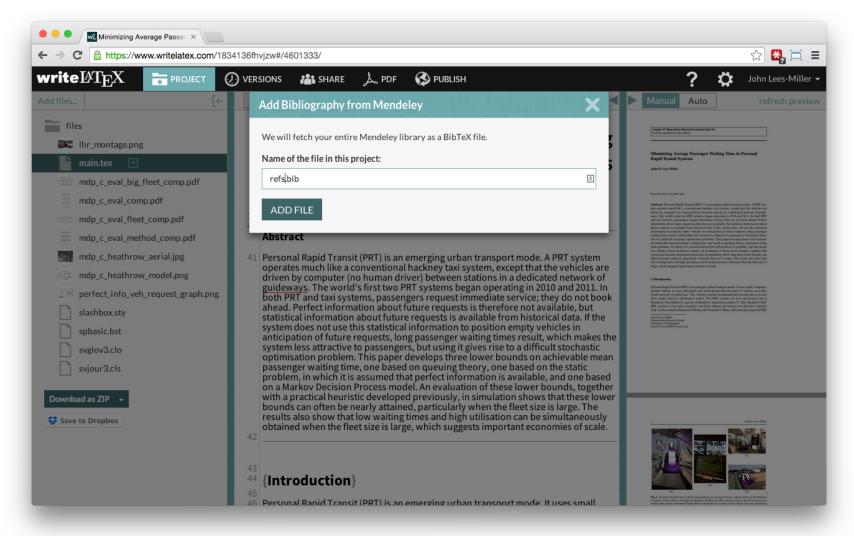
3. The first time you do this you'll need to connect your accounts



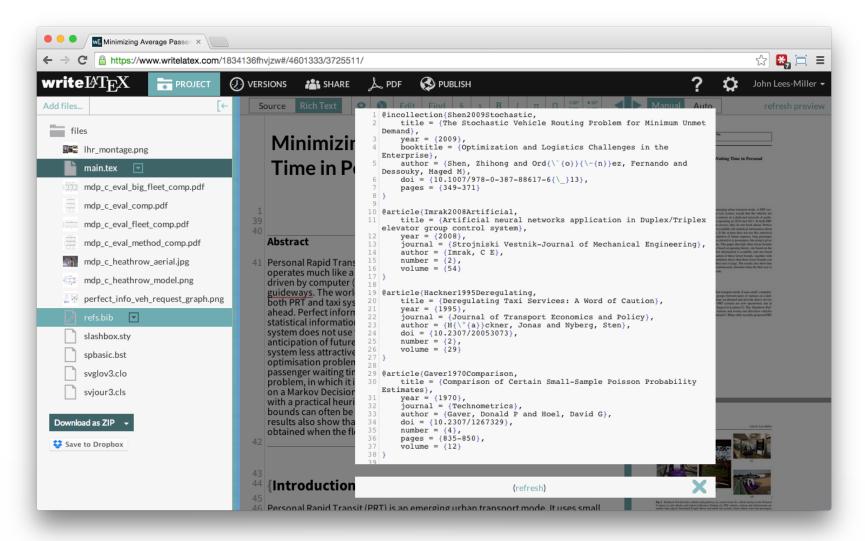
4. Authorize the connection if required



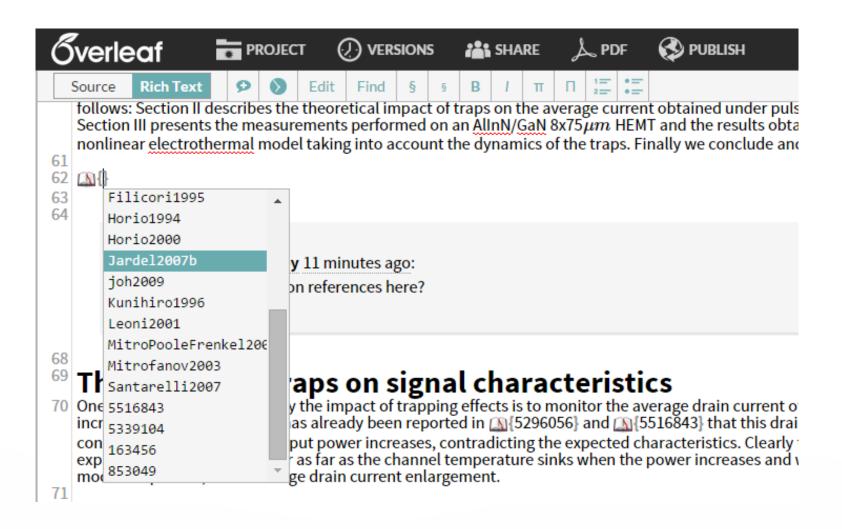
5. Choose a name for the .bib file in your project



6. The .bib file can be used as normal. Click refresh to sync.



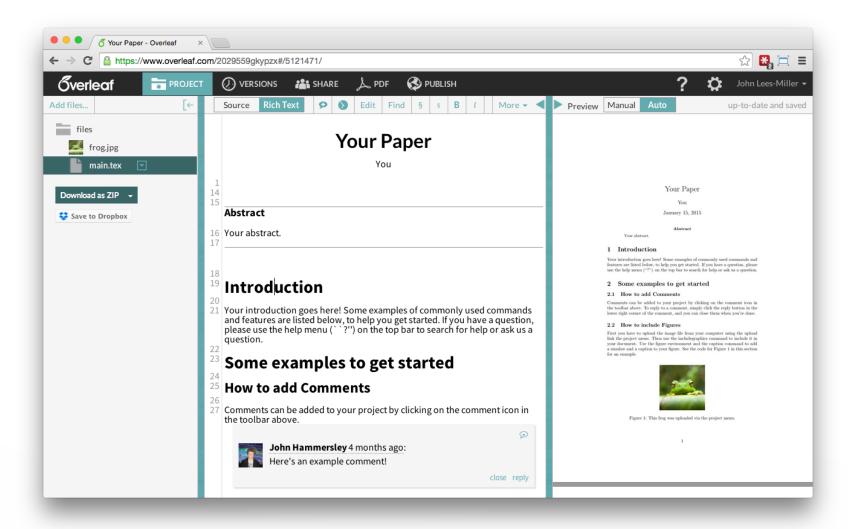
7. To cite a reference, use the \cite{} command



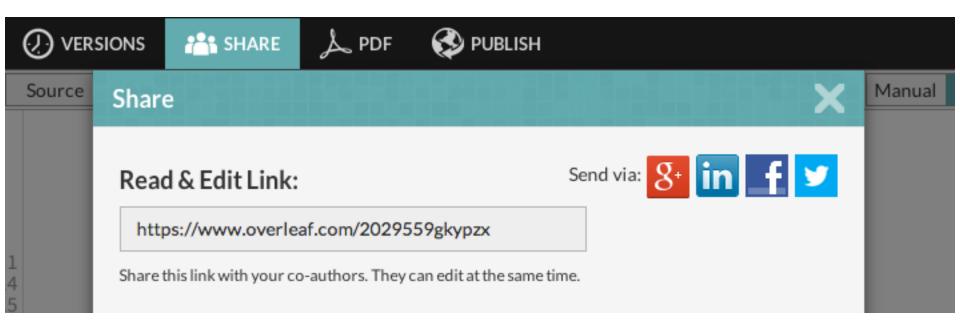
Offline sync with Git



1. Create (or open) a project on Overleaf



2. Find the Git link for your project



In this case, the project link is https://www.overleaf.com/2029559gkypzx, so its git link is https://git.overleaf.com/2029559gkypzx.

3. Clone your project with Git

```
work - bash - 80×24
jdlm-mbp:work john$ git clone https://git.overleaf.com/2029559gkypzx test paper
Cloning into 'test paper' ...
remote: Counting objects: 4, done
remote: Finding sources: 100% (4/4)
remote: Getting sizes: 100% (3/3)
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (100072/100072)
remote: Total 4 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
Unpacking objects: 100% (4/4), done.
Checking connectivity ... done.
jdlm-mbp:work john$
```

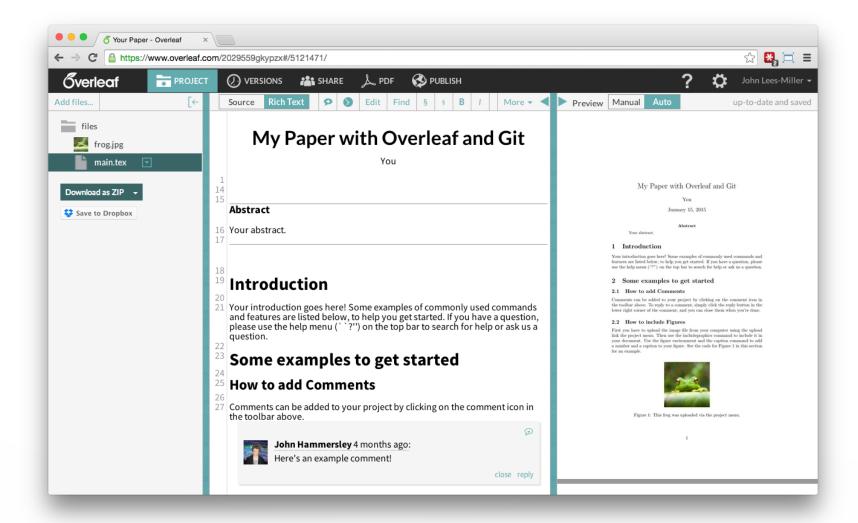
4. Edit your project and commit your changes

```
test_paper - vim - 80×24
    1 \documentclass[a4paper]{article}
    3 \usepackage[english]{babel}
    4 \usepackage[utf8x]{inputenc}
    5 \usepackage{amsmath}
    6 \usepackage{graphicx}
    7 \usepackage[colorinlistoftodos]{todonotes}
    9 \title (My Paper with Overleaf and Git
   10 \author{You}
   11
   12 \begin{document}
   13 \maketitle
   15 \begin{abstract}
   16 Your abstract.
   17 \end{abstract}
  18
   19 \section{Introduction}
   20
                                                               9,38
-- INSERT --
                                                                              GOT
```

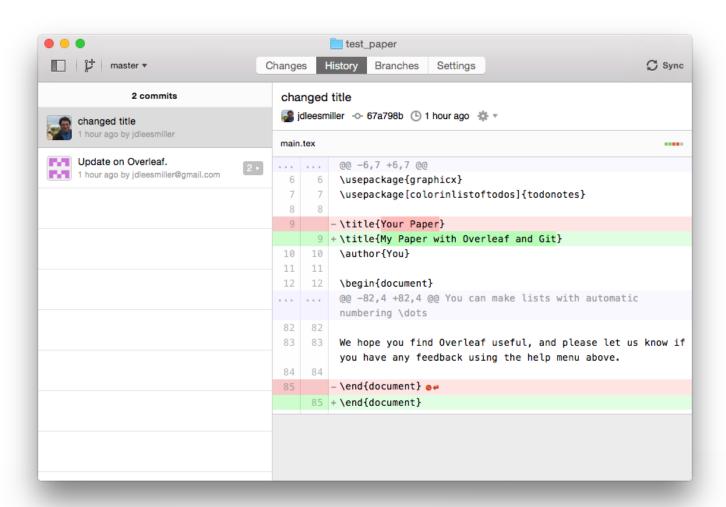
5. Push your changes to Overleaf

```
test_paper - bash - 80×24
remote: Finding sources: 100% (4/4)
remote: Getting sizes: 100% (3/3)
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (100072/100072)
remote: Total 4 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
Unpacking objects: 100% (4/4), done.
Checking connectivity... done.
jdlm-mbp:work john$ cd test paper
jdlm-mbp:test paper john$ ls
frog.jpg main.tex
jdlm-mbp:test paper john$ vi main.tex
jdlm-mbp:test paper john$ git commit -am "changed title"
[master 67a798b] changed title
1 file changed, 2 insertions(+), 2 deletions(-)
jdlm-mbp:test paper john$ git push
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 4 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (3/3), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 347 bytes | 0 bytes/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 1), reused 0 (delta 0)
remote: Resolving deltas: 100% (1/1)
remote: Updating references: 100% (1/1)
To https://git.overleaf.com/2029559gkypzx
   2f43246..67a798b master -> master
jdlm-mbp:test paper john$
```

6. See the results online



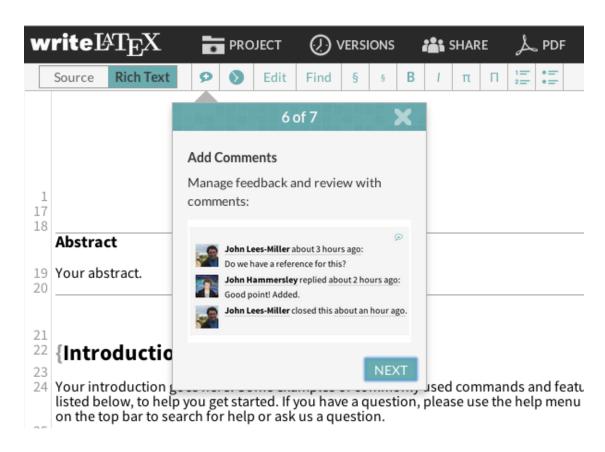
Option: Use graphical Git clients



Adding, replying-to, and closing comments

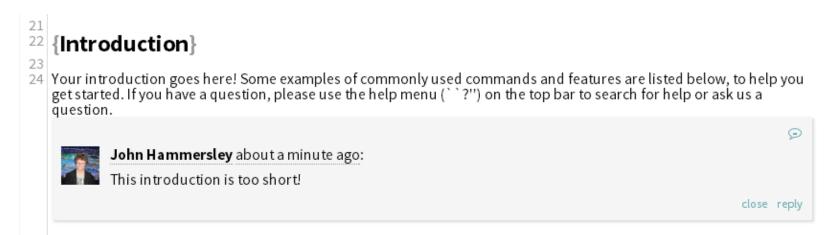


- It's often necessary to get feedback from colleagues
- Many online tools now offer integrated commenting



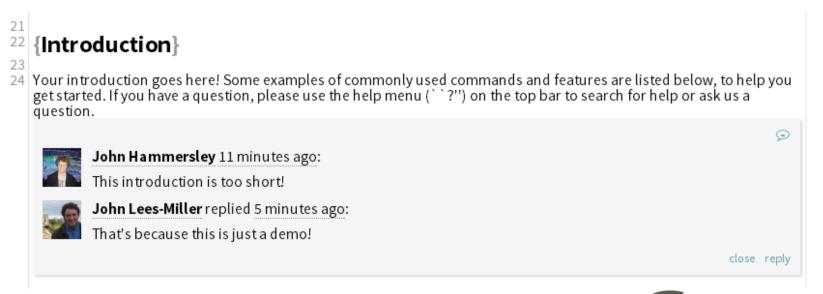


- Simply click the "Add comment" button on the editor toolbar, and type your comment in the box that appears.
- It'll then be inserted into the document:





 You can reply to comments left by your collaborators by clicking on the "reply" option at the foot of their comment:





 It appears as a nested comment, and you can close the comments when you're done. To re-open any closed comments, simply click the comment icon in the document.

```
Introduction

Your introduction goes here! Some examples of commonly used commands and features are listed below, to help you get started. If you have a question, please use the help menu (``?'') on the top bar to search for help or ask us a question.

Some Show Comment
```

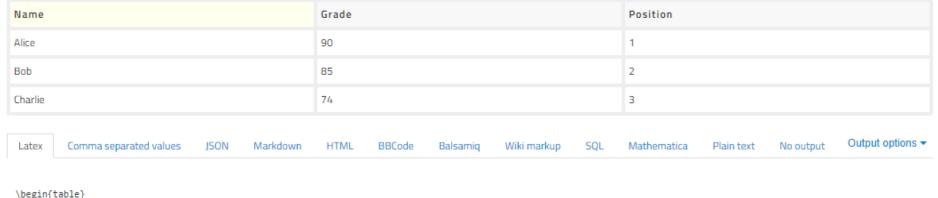


Other: Tables, Plots and Symbols



Table generator - http://www.tablesgenerator.com/

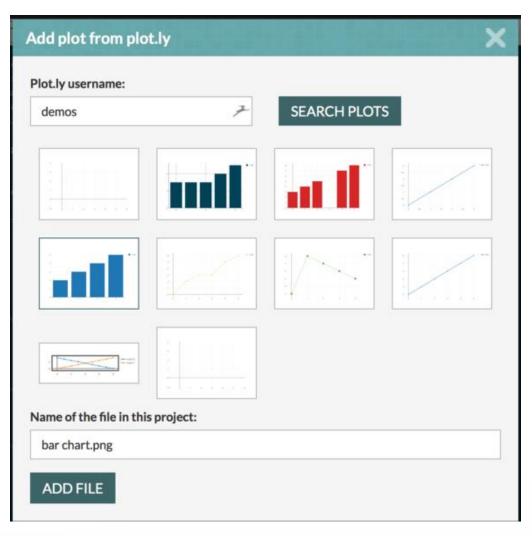
An easy way to generate LaTeX tables:



```
\begin{table}
    \begin{tabular}{111}
    Name & Grade & Position \\
    Alice & 90 & 1 \\
    Bob & 85 & 2 \\
    Charlie & 74 & 3 \\
    \end{tabular}
\end{table}
```

Adding Plots from plot.ly

- Import your plots from plot.ly directly into Overleaf
- Choose the 'Add plot from plot.ly' in the Project menu
- Enter your plot.ly username, and search your plots.

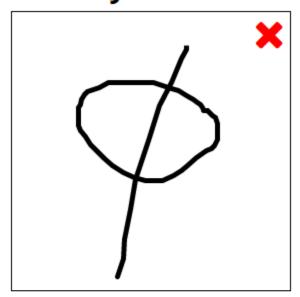


Find symbols:

- Just draw
 the symbol
 you'd like
 to use in your
 document
- Detexify finds it for you

Detexify

classify symbols



What is this?

Anyone who works with LaTeX knows how time-consuming it can be to find a symbol in symbols-a4.pdf that you just can't memorize. Detexify is an attempt to simplify this search.

How do I use it?

Just draw the symbol you are looking for into the square area above and look what happens!



Score: 0.1166896560018173 \usepackage{ tipa }

\textphi

textmode



Score: 0.11936450077023789

\emptyset mathmode

 ϕ

Score: 0.12435361371183157

\phi

mathmode



Score: 0.12472708321409938

\usepackage{ wasysym }

\clock

textmode & mathmode



Score: 0.13382072884929772

\usepackage{ upgreek }

\upphi

mathmode

The symbol is not in the list? Show more

Did this help?

Links to Additional Resources

- Free Introduction to LaTeX View
- Reference Management: Linking your Mendeley Account <u>View</u>
- Working Offline with GIT <u>View</u>

- How to create plots and figures with Plot.ly and import them into your Overleaf projects <u>View</u>
- How to publish your projects on Figshare to get an instant DOI <u>View</u>
- How to import your references from Zotero and CiteULike <u>View</u>
- How to setup an auto-backup using Overleaf → Dropbox → BitBucket (external) <u>View</u>



Thank you!

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